

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a ~~B-~~ *Bacterioides fragilis* polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 9306.

Claim 2. (original) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 1 operably linked to a transcription regulatory element.

Claim 3. (original) A cell comprising a recombinant expression vector of Claim 2.

Claim 4. (currently amended) A method for producing ~~an a~~ *B. Bacterioides fragilis* polypeptide comprising culturing a cell of Claim 3 under conditions that permit expression of the polypeptide.

Claim 5. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO: 4084;
- (b) a complement of SEQ ID NO: 4084; ~~or~~ and

(c) an RNA of (a) or (b), wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 6. (original) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of Claim 5 operably linked to a transcription regulatory element.

Claim 7. (original) A cell comprising a recombinant expression vector of Claim 6.

Claim 8. (currently amended) A method of producing ~~an a~~ *B. Bacterioides fragilis* polypeptide comprising culturing a cell of Claim 7 under conditions that permit expression of the polypeptide.

Claim 9. (currently amended) A probe comprising a nucleotide sequence consisting of at least twenty contiguous nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO: 4084;
- (b) a complement of SEQ ID NO: 4084; ~~or~~ and
- (c) an RNA of (a) or (b), wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 10. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid ~~comprising a nucleotide sequence of at least forty nucleotides in length encoding a *B. fragilis* polypeptide of at least 10 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 9306~~, wherein the ~~sequence nucleic acid~~ is hybridizable to a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) SEQ ID NO: 4084;
- (b) a complement of SEQ ID NO: 4084; ~~or~~ and
- (c) an RNA of (a) or (b), wherein U is substituted for T.

Claims 11-28 (canceled).